

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 9 and 10 are amended.

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Matsunaga et al. (Matsunaga), U.S. Patent No. 6,114,828. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In reply to the comments on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 9 have been amended in order to further clarify the selected temperature. Claims 1 and 9 call for the selected temperature to be from a coil of the plurality of coils where a maximum current flow is detected, with the maximum current flow being detected based on the detected current phase angle.

Matsunaga discloses an inverter 4 that comprises six semiconductor switching devices T1 through T6. Each switching device T1 through T6 is attached onto a cooling fin on which a temperature detecting thermistor 6 that detects a temperature T_s of each cooling fin is attached (col. 3, lines 43-47). At step S27, Fig. 2B, Matsunaga calculates a limitation torque to the maximum value T_{JMAX} of the junction temperatures on the respective switching devices T1 through T6 (col. 6, lines 2-5). As a result, the torque is controlled based on the maximum junction temperature T_{JMAX} of the inverter switching device T1 - T6.

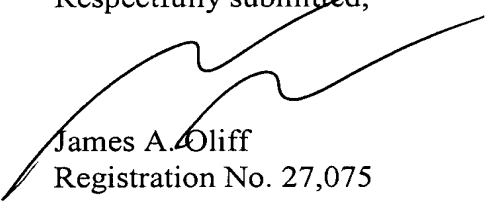
Matsunaga thus fails to provide any disclosure with regard to selecting a temperature from a coil of the plurality of coils where a maximum current flow is detected, as called for in claims 1 and 9. The only mention of a maximum current flow in Matsunaga is that the inverter circuit 4 is caused to flow a continuously allowable maximum current to the motor 5 (col. 5, lines 1-5). However, allowing a maximum current to flow is not the same as selecting a temperature from a coil where a maximum current flow is detected.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Request for Continued Examination

Date: July 10, 2007

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